

TOWN OF GRAND RAPIDS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 9, 2007

Meeting Place: Grand Rapids Municipal Building, 2410 48th Street South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Present: Chairman Don Bohn; Supervisors Arne Nystrom, Jeanne Fehrman, David Hartjes and Edward Hellner; Building Inspector Lorelei Fuehrer, Treasurer Kristine Ginter, : Clerk, Judy McLellan

Absent: - - -

Excused

NOTE: () indicates agenda item of when Board member joined the meeting.

Notices of the meeting were legally posted at The Store in Kellner, the Grand Rapids Garage and the Grand Rapids Municipal Building, and published in the Daily Tribune.

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m. by Chairman Don Bohn.

1. **Approve minutes of September 11, 2007 Town Board Meeting.** Motion (Hellner//Hartjes) approve minutes of September 11th Town Board Meeting. Motion carried.
2. **Approval of date change of Temporary liquor license application from the Boys and Girls Club, to hold Wine & Cheese Cocktail Party. Date changed from October 13, 2007 to October 20, 2007.**
Motion (Hartjes/Hellner) to approve date change for Wine and Cheese Cocktail Party sponsored by Boys and Girls Club from October 13th to October 20th, 2007. Motion carried.
3. **Approval of Building Inspector to attend Wis. Plumbers Continuing Education Seminar on Nov 2, 2007.**
Motion (Nystrom/Fehrman) to approve Building Inspector to attend Wis. Plumbers Continuing Education Seminar on Nov. 2, 2007. Motion carried.
4. **Approval of resolution for the Town of Grand Rapids Fire Department to enter into the statewide participation of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System.**
Motion (Fehrman/ Hellner) to approve the resolution for the Town of Grand Rapids Fire Department to enter into the statewide participation of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System. Motion carried.
5. **Discussion on issuing permits to allow residents to remove dead timber from Town of Grand Rapids owned land.**
Discussion was held by board members on issues of liability concerns pertaining to injuries and residents cutting trees from neighboring land. Waiver/Permit will be revised to include wording that **all persons** entering onto town property for the purpose of removing or helping to remove dead timber will need to have signed a waiver/permit. The clerk will forward the waiver/permit to the town's attorney for review. It was discussed that the Chairman will issue the permits, meet with the persons who have been issued permits as to boundaries of land, monitor amount of wood each person may take, and oversee removal of wood. Motion (Hellner/ Nystrom) to approve the issuing of permits for the removal of dead or downed timber from town property with the Chairman overseeing the operation. Motion is contingent on the approval of town's attorney. Motion carried.
6. **Approval of September disbursement vouchers.**
No questions from board members.
7. **Approval/Denial of Operators License Application.**
Motion (Hartjes/Fehrman) to approve applications as presented. Motion carried

8. Reports from committees and departments:

- **Police Department:**

Chief Staniforth was not available to present this month's report.

- **Fire Department:**

Month of September: 12 service calls. 1 CO call, 1 multiple vehicle fire, 1 shed fire, 3 landing zone setup, 2 vehicle accidents, 2 RIT calls, 2 false alarms. The department also responded to 2 burning complaints outside of normal burning hours. Training was held Oct 1 which consisted of class room review and test on pump operations. Up coming training will be Oct 17th and 22nd which will be on Fire Fighting Tactics, scene size up and smoke reading. The fire department will also be holding an exploratory meeting to determine if there is interest in starting a First Responder Unit. Meeting will be November 7th, 2007 at 7 p.m. at the Fire Station. First Responders would require 58 hours of training.

- **Safety**

No injuries. Next safety meeting October 24th at fire station 8:00 a.m. Topic will be Proper Use of Personal Protective Equipment for the job at hand.

- **Public Works:**

Paving of Wazeecha Avenue roadway has been completed. Paving of driveways should be completed Oct. 10th. Cul-de-sac on Arbutus Drive has been completed for this year. Second layer of blacktop will be applied next spring. There are some trees on 32nd street that will need to be removed this winter for spring road project.

- **Crime Stoppers:**

Supervisor Nystrom stated that the Crime Stoppers are holding a Computer and Electronics recycling drive October 11th from 9:00 to 3:00 in the Shopko parking lot. Cost is 25 cents per pound. Some of the proceeds are returned to Crime Stoppers.

- **Airport Commission :**

An Agreement between the airport commission and land owner Brad Pavloski has been reached and the walking trail should re-open soon. The agreement is being drawn up to allow the airport commission to lease the land, where the current walking trail is, from the company of Brad Pavloski for \$1 per year. This will allow the trail to remain where it is. Airport tarmacs have been completed.

- **Planning and Zoning:**

October Smart Growth meeting will be held Monday, October 15th. Public welcome. Planning and Zoning Commission may be looking at revisiting the town's ordinance on off premises signs along Hwy 54.

- **Building Inspector/Zoning Adm.**

Building Inspector Lorelei Fuehrer stated that there were no new building permits issued for the month of September. A daycare center for the student's children may open in area of the River Cities School (former Children's Choice School). Biron officials and developers were asked to attend the next town board meeting October 23 to give the board update on Biron's future plans of bordering land and future well plans.

9. DNR Annual Burning Permit Trial for 2008

DNR ranger gave an overview of the new annual burning permit trial that will begin in 2008 for our area. Current burning permits are issued for 3-5 days. The new policy for 2008 will follow all current restriction of the DNR and Town ordinances but will be good for the entire year. There will be a website or phone number that will need to be checked by the holder of the permit to determine if burning is allowed.

10. Other Public Input:

- Resident Mary Mras asked about obtaining one of the permits to harvest the dead wood on the town's property. Supervisor Bohn said that we will contact her if the permits are to be issued. Mary also asked about the past meeting pertaining to the Gypsy Moths. A brief overview of the meeting was given.

Grand Rapids Board Meeting Minutes – October 9, 2007

Motion (Nystrom/ Fehrman) to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 7:25 p.m.

Minutes subject to board approval.

Respectfully submitted and approved
this _____ day of _____, 2007.

Judy McLellan
Town Clerk